WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED

QUESTIONS Training of fishermen

4117. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposals from Tripura State about "Training of Traditional Fishermen for skill upgradation in Fish Processing", "Production of Fish Seed" and project on "Manufacturing of shidal (a cured fish product)" are pending with Government;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to sanction the proposal; and

(c) by when this would be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSIAN) : (a) and (b) The project of "Training of Traditional Fisherpersons for skill upgradation in Fish Processing" has been sanctioned and release of first instalment of Rs. 9.05 lakhs ordered on 30-3-1999.

The revised proposal from Government of Tripura for the "Production of Fish Feed" has been received on 29-3-2000. Further clarification has been sought from the State Government on 13-4-2000 and their response is awaited. The project regarding "Manufacturing of Shidal" was initially received on 22-2-1999 and the State Government was advised on 13-4-99 to send the proposal through NCDC. This was done and a copy of letter from State Government was received on 24-05-99. The State Government was asked for certain information/clarifications on 7-2-2000 and their response is awaited.

(c) The proposal will be considered for sanction after receipt of the information sought.

Decline in foodgrain production

4118. SHRI ANIL SHARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in Dainik Jagran, New Delhi on 5th February, 2000 under the caption "Anaaj Utpadan mein bhari girawat ki aashanka";

(b) if so, the reaction thereto; and